

METHODS, SYSTEMS AND PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR DELIVERY OF WEB
SERVICES USING CATEGORICAL CONTRACTS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Web services may be provided by creating an electronic record of a contract
for a service provider to provide web services meeting a web service category
definition at a web services hub of a service domain, and providing a web service to a
service requestor from the service domain responsive to the electronic record of the
contract. A plurality of ports operative to provide web services meeting the service
10 category definition may be identified at the web service hub, and the web service may
be provided to the service requestor responsive to identification of the ports. For
example, a plurality of ports may be identified by polling at least one web services
node subordinate to the web services hub to identify at least one service provided by
the node, and updating a description of a service category, e.g., a WSDL document,
15 responsive to the polling. A plurality of levels of web services nodes may be polled
using a coordinated polling interval scheme to create an updated service view for the
service hub.